

## **Bonhomme, Penny**

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**From:** ccerreta@bridgeport.edu  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 22, 2012 4:26 PM  
**To:** cmbrdh@gmail.com; PHC Testimony

Good Morning,

My name is Cara Cerreta and I am a Student Dental Hygienist, at the University of Bridgeport, Fones School of Dental Hygiene. I am very proud of my chosen profession and I would like you to support, on my behalf, legislation to establish the Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner. The ADHP will add a new member to the dental team to deliver care to the underserved in Connecticut. Access to dental services necessary to maintain optimal oral health, which is an integral component of total health, can increase with the creation of a midlevel practitioner like the ADHP. Please support the Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner. This proposal will make it possible for thousands of underserved patients who cannot obtain care, to receive needed dental care.

This type of midlevel provider, akin to the APRN (nurse practitioner) is the way of the future and as you know CT is the Origin of Dental Hygiene - Bridgeport 1913. We will be celebrating the 100th year, next May.